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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/619,536	
	Filing Date	July 15, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Walulik et al.	
	Art Unit	3733	
	Examiner Name	Anu Ramana	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	5490E-000285

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form  <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final  <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>return receipt postcard</b>
<b>Remarks</b>		The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Stephen T. Olson Maria Comninou	Reg. No. 36,626 44,626
Signature			
Date	November 2, 2006		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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Signature		Date	November 2, 2006

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EV 757 778 264 US



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/619,536  
Filing Date: July 15, 2003  
Applicant: Walulik et al.  
Group Art Unit: 3733  
Examiner: Anu Ramana  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE EXTERNAL  
FIXATION AND CORRECTION OF BONE  
Attorney Docket: 5490E-000285

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following amendments and in response to the Office Action regarding the restriction and election requirement mailed October 23, 2006, please consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.

**Response to Restriction Requirement and Election** begins on page 9 of this paper.